

each  $R_1$  is independently selected from the group consisting of H; halogen;  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkenyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkynyl;  $--COR_4$  where  $R_4$  is H,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl or  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy;  $C_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl; aryl; heteroaryl; cyano; nitro; trihalomethyl; oxo; or  $-(CH_2)_n-X-(CH_2)_m-(R_5)_o$  where X is O, S or N, n is 0-3, m is 0-3, o is 0-1, and  $R_5$  is methyl or  $H_{1-2}$ ;

each  $R_2$  and each  $R_3$  are independently selected from the group consisting of H; halogen;  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkenyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkynyl;  $--COR_4$  where  $R_4$  is H;  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl or  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy;  $C_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl; aryl; heteroaryl; cyano; nitro; trihalomethyl; oxo; or  $-(CH_2)_n-X-(CH_2)_m-(R_5)_o$  where X is O, S or N, n is 0-3, m is 0-3, o is 0-1, and  $R_5$  is methyl or  $H_{1-2}$ ; or an  $R_2$  and an  $R_3$  together comprise a saturated, partly saturated, or unsaturated ring structure having the formula  $-(C(R_6)_p)_q-X_s-(C(R_6)_p)_r-X_t-(C(R_6)_p)_u$  where each  $R_6$  is independently selected from the group consisting of H; halogen;  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkenyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkynyl;  $--COR_4$  where  $R_4$  is H,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl or  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy;  $C_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl; aryl; heteroaryl; cyano; nitro; trihalomethyl and oxo where each p is independently 1 or 2, q is 0-5, r is 0-5, u is 0-5; each X is independently O, S, or N and s is 0 or 1; provided that  $q + r + u + s + t$  is less than 6;

Y is selected from the group consisting of O; S; N;  $-(C(R_7)_z)_s$ —where each  $R_7$  is independently as previously defined for  $R_1$ , each z is independently 1-2, and s is 1-3;  $--CH=$ ;  $--CH=CH--$ ; or  $Y_1CH_2$ —where  $Y_1$  is O, N, or S; and the dotted lines are optional double bonds, with the proviso that if the ring including Y is a cyclohexane ring or a heterocyclic 5 member ring said ring is not fully unsaturated, and that if Y is O, N or S, the ring including Y contains at least one said double bond, said compound further having selective agonist activity at the  $\alpha 2B$  or  $\alpha 2B/\alpha 2C$  adrenergic receptor subtype(s) over the  $\alpha 2A$  adrenergic receptor subtype, and all pharmacologically acceptable salts, esters, stereoisomers and racemic mixtures thereof.

2. (Amended) The compound of claim 1 in which the ring including Y has either a single double bond or no double bond, except that when an  $R_2$  and an  $R_3$  together comprise a saturated, unsaturated or partly saturated ring structure said Y-including ring optionally shares an additional double bond with said condensed ring, provided Y is not S, O, or N.

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9. (Amended) The compound of claim 2, in which each  $R_2$  and each  $R_3$  are independently selected from the group consisting of: H;  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkenyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkynyl; halide; trihalomethyl; cycloalkyl;  $(CH_2)_n-X-(CH_2)_m-(R_5)_o$ , where X is O, S or N, n is 0-3, m is 0-3, o is 0-1, and  $R_5$  is methyl or  $H_{1-2}$ ; or an  $R_2$  and an  $R_3$  together comprise a saturated, partly saturated, or unsaturated ring structure having the formula  $-(C(R_6)_p)_q-X_s-(C(R_6)_p)_r-X_t-(C(R_6)_p)_u$  where each  $R_6$  is independently selected from the group consisting of H; halogen;  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkenyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkynyl;  $--COR_4$  where  $R_4$  is H,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl or  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy;  $C_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl; aryl; heteroaryl; cyano; nitro; trihalomethyl; and oxo where each p is independently 1 or 2, q is 0-4, r is 0-4, u is 0-4; each X is independently O, S, or N, s is 0 or 1, and  $q + s + r + t + u = 3$  or 4.

Sub B2

10. (Amended) The compound of claim 3, in which each  $R_2$  and each  $R_3$  are independently selected from the group consisting of: H;  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkenyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkynyl; halide; trihalomethyl; cycloalkyl;  $(CH_2)_n-X-(CH_2)_m-(R_5)_o$ , where X is O, S or N, n is 0-3, m is 0-3, o is 0-1, and  $R_5$  is methyl or  $H_{1-2}$ ; or an  $R_2$  and an  $R_3$  together comprise a saturated, partly saturated, or unsaturated ring structure having the formula  $-(C(R_6)_p)_q-X_s-(C(R_6)_p)_r-X_t-(C(R_6)_p)_u$  where each  $R_6$  is independently selected from the group consisting of H; halogen;  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkenyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkynyl;  $--COR_4$  where  $R_4$  is H,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl or  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy;  $C_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl; aryl; heteroaryl; cyano; nitro; trihalomethyl; and oxo where each p is independently 1 or 2, q is 0-4, r is 0-4, u is 0-4; each X is independently O, S, or N, s is 0 or 1, and  $q + s + r + t + u = 3$  or 4.

A4 Sub B3

71. (Amended) The compound of claim 53 in which an  $R_2$  and an  $R_3$  together comprise a saturated, partly saturated, or unsaturated ring structure having the formula  $-(C(R_6)_p)_q-X_s-(C(R_6)_p)_r-X_t-(C(R_6)_p)_u$  where each  $R_6$  is independently selected from the group consisting of H; halogen;  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkenyl;  $C_{1-4}$  alkynyl;  $--COR_4$  where  $R_4$  is H,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl or  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy;  $C_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl; aryl; heteroaryl; cyano; nitro; trihalomethyl; and oxo where each p is independently 1 or 2, q is 0-4, r is 0-4, u is 0-4; each X is independently O, S, or N, s is 0 or 1, and  $q + s + r + t + u = 3$  or 4.